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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/575,331	04/12/2006	Patrick Fontaine	PF030159	3620
Joseph J Laks Patent Operations Thomson Licensing Inc PO Box 5312 Princeton, NJ 08543-5312				
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REGO, DOMINIC E				
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2618				
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10/30/2008			PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/575,331

Applicant(s)

FONTAINE ET AL.

Examiner

DOMINIC E. REGO

Art Unit

2618

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 October 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 15 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 15 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/07/2008 has been entered.
2. This communication is responsive to the application filed on October 07, 2008. Claims 1-9, 15, and 18 are pending and presented for prosecution. Claims 1-3,5,7,9, and 18 have been amended.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
4. Claims 1-3,5,6,9, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Labonte et al (US Patent #6,259,918) in view of Proctor, Jr. et al. (US Patent #6,941,152).

Regarding claim 1, Labonte teaches method of communication in transmitting/receiving stations in a wireless communication network, in which first multi-receiver frames (Figures 4A and 4B, item 104) are exchanged between a station and a plurality of other stations (Figures 4A and 4B, items 114), indicating the transmitting station and the receiving station in an omnidirectional manner (Figure 4A and 4B, item 106) using an omnidirectional antenna (*Col 4, lines 2-29: Labonte teaches a base station 102 for the cell 100 includes a first directive (sector) antenna 104 operable to form a wide beam 106 for each sector 108, with the totality of the sector coverage formed thereby providing substantially omni-directional radio frequency coverage throughout the cell site area*) and second mono-receiver frames (Figures 4A and 4B, item 110) are exchanged between the transmitting station and the receiving station (Figure 4A and 4B, item 114), in a directional manner using a directional antenna (*Col 4, lines 2-29, Labonte teaches the base station 102 for the cell 100 further includes a plurality of second directive (smart) antennas 110, one for each sector, and each operable to form a plurality of separate, perhaps slightly overlapping, narrow beams 112 (either switched or steerable) within each sector 108, with the totality of the smart beams formed thereby providing substantially omni-directional radio frequency coverage throughout the cell site area*), wherein the transmission in an omnidirectional manner is effected in a more robust fashion than the transmission in a directional manner using a directional antenna.

However, in related art, Proctor, Jr. teaches in that the transmission in a omnidirectional manner is effected in a more robust fashion than the transmission in a directional manner using a directional antenna (Col 1, lines 18-48; Col 4, line 59-Col 5, line 33).

Therefore, it would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the above teaching of Proctor, Jr. to Labonte in order to reduce interference.

Regarding claim 2, the combination of Labonte and Proctor, Jr. teach all the claimed elements in claim 1. In addition, Proctor, Jr. teaches method according to claim 1, wherein the more robust transmission is effected at a lower throughput than the less robust transmission (Col 4, line 59-Col 5, line 33).

Regarding claim 3, the combination of Labonte and Proctor, Jr. teach all the claimed elements in claim 1. In addition, Proctor, Jr. teaches method, wherein the mono-receiver frames are modulated by a modulation with a first number of phases and in that the multi-receiver frames are modulated by a modulation with a second number of phases, and in that the first number of phases is greater than the second number of phases (Col 4, line 59-Col 5, line 33).

Regarding claim 5, the combination of Labonte and Proctor, Jr. teach all the claimed elements in claim 1. In addition, Proctor, Jr. teaches Method, wherein the mono-receiver frames are coded with a first forward error correction rate and the multi-receiver frames are coded with a second forward error correction rate, and in that the first rate is higher than the second rate (Col 4, line 59-Col 5, line 33).

Regarding claim 6, the combination of Labonte and Proctor, Jr. teach all the claimed elements in claims 5 and 12. In addition, Labonte teaches method, wherein the mono-receiver frames (Figures 4A and 4B, item 110) and the multi-receiver frames (Figures 4A and 4B, item 110) are modulated by the same modulation. (Also see Admitted Prior art, Page 2, lines 17-36).

Regarding claim 9, Labonte teaches a transmitting and/or receiving station for a wireless communication network, wherein said station comprises an omnidirectional antenna (Figures 4A and 4B, item 104) to transmit and/or receive multi-receiver frames in an omnidirectional manner indicating the transmitting and the receiving station (*Col 4, lines 2-29: Labonte teaches a base station 102 for the cell 100 includes a first directive (sector) antenna 104 operable to form a wide beam 106 for each sector 108, with the totality of the sector coverage formed thereby providing substantially omni-directional radio frequency coverage throughout the cell site area*) and at least one directional antenna (Figures 4A and 4B, item 110) to transmit and/or receive mono-receiver frames in a directional manner (Figures 4A and 4B, item 112), determined by the first multi-receiver frames (*Col 4, lines 2-29, Labonte teaches the base station 102 for the cell 100 further includes a plurality of second directive (smart) antennas 110, one for each sector, and each operable to form a plurality of separate, perhaps slightly overlapping, narrow beams 112 (either switched or steerable) within each sector 108, with the totality of the smart beams formed thereby providing substantially omni-directional radio frequency coverage throughout the cell site area*), except the transmission in a

omnidirectional manner being effected in a more robust fashion than the transmission in a directional manner.

However, in related art, Proctor, Jr. teaches the transmission in a omnidirectional manner being effected in a more robust fashion than the transmission in a directional manner (Col 1, lines 18-48; Col 4, line 59-Col 5, line 33).

Therefore, it would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the above teaching of Proctor, Jr. to Labonte in order to reduce interference.

Regarding claim 18, the combination of Labonte and Proctor, Jr. teach all the claim element in claim 9. In addition, Proctor, Jr. teaches wireless communication network wherein it comprises several transmitting and/or receiving stations (Figure 2 and Admitted Prior Art, Page 1, lines 33-35).

5. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Labonte et al (US Patent #6,259,918) in view of Proctor, Jr. et al. (US Patent #6,941,152) and further in view of Trompower (US Patent #6,132,306).

Regarding claim 4, the combination of Labonte and Proctor, Jr. fail to teach method, wherein the mono-receiver frames are modulated by a modulation with more than two phases and in that the multi-receiver frames are modulated by a two phases modulation.

However, in related art, Trompower teaches method, wherein the mono-receiver frames are modulated by a modulation with more than two phases and in that the multi-receiver frames are modulated by a two phases modulation (Col 11, lines 17-34).

Therefore, it would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the above teaching of Trompower to Labonte and Proctor, Jr. in order to avoid interference.

6. Claim 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Labonte et al (US Patent #6,259,918) in view of Proctor, Jr. et al. (US Patent #6,941,152) and further in view of Admitted Prior art.

Regarding claim 7, the combination of Labonte and Proctor, Jr fail to teach method, wherein the transmission is in compliance with one of the standards belonging to the set comprising: Hiperlan type 2; and IEEE802.11a. However, in related art, Admitted Prior art teaches method, wherein the transmission is in compliance with one of the standards belonging to the set comprising: Hiperlan type 2; and IEEE802.11a (Page 1, lines 24-25). Therefore, it would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the above teaching of Admitted Prior art to Labonte and Proctor, Jr. so that data can be transmitted to the communication terminal efficiently.

Regarding claim 8, the combination of Labonte and Proctor, Jr fail to teach method, wherein the transmission is in compliance with IEEE 802.11g. However, in

related art, Admitted Prior art teaches method, wherein the transmission is in compliance with IEEE 802.11g (Page 1, lines 24-25). Therefore, it would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the above teaching of Admitted Prior art to Labonte and Proctor, Jr. so that data can be transmitted to the terminal efficiently.

7. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Labonte et al (US Patent #6,259,918) in view of Proctor, Jr. et al. (US Patent #6,941,152) and further in view of Pekonen et al. (US Patent #7,092,672).

Regarding claim 15, the combination of Labonte and Proctor, Jr. teach all the claimed elements in claim 9, except station, wherein it comprises four directional antennas oriented at 90 degree with respect to one another.

However, in related art, Pekonen teaches station, wherein it comprises four directional antennas oriented at 90 degree with respect to one another (Col 4, lines 35-55).

Therefore, it would have obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide the above teaching of Pekonen to Labonte and Proctor, Jr. in order to enable the antenna's angle of coverage to be adjusted.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-9,15, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Labonte et al (US Patent #6,259,918).

9. Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in its entirety as potentially teaching of all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DOMINIC E. REGO whose telephone number is (571)272-8132. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duc M. Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7503. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Dominic E. Rego
/Dominic E. Rego/
Examiner, Art Unit 2618
Tel 571-272-8132

/Duc Nguyen/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2618